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For Immediate Release...

Corrections News

September 14, 2006

Missouri Department of Corrections Employee of the Month

Ms. Linda Clarke-Pope has been selected as the Missouri Department of Corrections Employee of the Month for September 2006. Clarke-Pope is employed as a Corrections Officer I at Moberly Correctional Center. In her duties as Phone Monitor at MCC, Clarke-Pope realized that a conversation between an inmate and an elderly woman was suspicious.

“By paying attention to this call, you learned that the offender had conned the 67-year-old female victim out of more than \$2,250 by obtaining the victim’s credit card number and security/access information, and deceiving the victim into believing payment was being made on her behalf,” Corrections Department Director Larry Crawford wrote in a letter to Clarke-Pope.

Crawford praised Clarke-Pope for her initiative, noting the Investigator assigned to MCC was not scheduled to return for several days. Clarke-Pope took the initiative to place the offender in administrative segregation, which helped prevent him from further use of the victim’s credit card information. Clarke-Pope’s discovery led to a referral for prosecution as a Class B Felony, Financial Exploitation of an Elderly/Disabled Person.

“Had you not discovered this suspicious telephone conversation, the offender would have been able to further victimize this elderly citizen. The victim in this case was very grateful for your discovery and your help in stopping the activity,” Director Crawford wrote in the letter to Clarke-Pope.

Clarke-Pope has been employed with the Department of Corrections for eight-and-a-half years and resides in Marceline.

For further information, contact Public Information Officer Brian Hauswirth at (573) 522-1118.